10/26/77

Dear John,

Separate from my complaints and criticisms, as I have mentioned to you in the past, there are reflections of the payoff from prompt and diligent orthodox police work in the Ray case. When I am past all this stonewalling and am writing I want to be able to go into this.

I believe there should be relevant records plus a compilation of the time and money invested in the Ray case. I recall news releases that gave totals, large ones, plus an interpretation or evaluation of them. I do not recall receiving any such records. I do have piecemal ones as they worked their way upward through the bureaucracy.

I was reminded of this in the LA files about Serial 66. This relates to the tracing of the laundry mark to Los Angeles and there to Jay Wallace Vernon. I believe that record is dated 4/10/68.

Being able to do that as rapidly as it was done is impressive and does justify the enormous effort required to be able to do it.

I would like to be able to reflect this fully and fairly. Except in generalities the sheer mass precludes this.

It is not nearly the same as sending agents to the places identified by car servicing stickers. That is automatic. This required much work

So I am hoping that in files other than those searched, probably some I've told you I believe have to exist, there are records of this nature andperhaps, others.

I would like everything of this kind that can be located. I can't iamgine the generation of all the paper I've gone over without some such end products.

If those now most familiar with these records from going over them have other similar suggestions they are free to make I do solicit them.

Also impressive was the tremenduous amount of time wasted by so many citizens reporting nonsense, regardless of the intentions of these citizens. Some obviously were irrational. Others merely imaginative. Some had axes to grind, like the feuding radical rights in the Los Angeles area. This, by the way, is not reflected in what I've gone over. Eugene Bradley is an example of this. He and Mrs. Aydelot were suing eachs other. Bradley, who I also know, knew very well he was giving the FBI a bum steer on her having mentioned a "Ray." The political agents in LA should have known that. Hall, also mx among those I know, knew better than what he reported about Clint Wheat.

Perhaps the LA case is not typical but it seems to me to present a real law-enforcement problem. A real cost and a real drain of precious time. It seems to me to present a no-win situation because it is necessary to learn what people may have seen or know.

Prisoners and former prisoners did much the same thing about the real and the imagined James Earl Rays.

If there is any tabulation reflecting this kind of cost or any evaluations I would like copies.

On the human level, of the individual agents and their families and perhaps family tensions from the delayed, cold and overcooked suppers kept hot too long and from fathers and families being denied time together the toll must have been great. (I do too think agents are people.)

So I'd like to be able to reflect this kinds of aspects of the crime as well as I can.

More or less along the same line is something current that should have been reflected as of the past and is in no record I recall. This is a Ray disinformation operation. To a limited degree it is represented by the recent Playboy article. This is why I've mentioned the contents of Ray's wallet as a possible source of the alleged card James Earl claims to have found in his car at a Mexico border crossing.

This card is said to have been of LEAA. There was no LEAA then. It is said to have had the name and number of one Randy Rosenson written on it. Several days ago there was a TV news item quoting Rosenson as calling Ray a liar from some unindentified Virginia jail.

There was an earlier use of this business around Xmas 1973 hwen Jimmy was desparate about being shifted to a federal jail. It is in a complaint he filed and then was checked by several reporters. Would you please seek the missing records? Sincerely,